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Stern Calls RFK Inept In Book Censor Effort

HAMBURG, Germany, Jan. 31 (UPI)—The German magazine Der Stern said today that Sen. Robert F. Kennedy (D-N.Y.) was "inept" in attempts to prevent its publication of controversial portions of William Manchester's "The Death of a President."

Henri Nannen, chief editor of the magazine, said in an editorial:

"Does he (Kennedy) really believe he can manipulate for his benefit to have the entire quarrel between the Kennedy clan and the Johnson hangers-on erased from Manchester's work?"

Nannen said the passages Kennedy wanted cut in the Look version contained "a few political passages, a few personal reports, a little personal politics or political personality pieces—however, one wants to interpret them."

He said none of the "political references were taken out of Der Stern. The fourth installment appeared today.

Der Stern voluntarily cut out portions that it considered "personal passages" regarding Mrs. Kennedy.

"Who could deny a woman the desire not to see such passages in print?" Nannen asked his readers.